

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

OFFICE OF CHEMICAL SAFETY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION

December 23, 2021

Wendy McCombie Pacific Northwest Pesticide Consulting 1733 H. St. Suite 450, Mailbox No. 243 Blaine, Wa 98230

Re: FOIA Request - EPA-2022-000315, Unusual Circumstances and Extension of Time

Dear Wendy McCombie:

This letter concerns the above-referenced Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request, received by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), National FOIA Office on December 15, 2021, in which you requested:

"copies of the Data Evaluation Reports ("DERs") for studies submitted by Magna Bon II (EPA Co. No. 66675). A list of the MRIDs and associated study information is provided in the attached PDF. The attached PDF also includes a copy of the letter from Magna Bon II LLC authorizing me to act on their behalf."

In accordance with 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(6)(B), and pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 2.104(d), an extension of time is necessary to respond to your request. Based on the scope of your request, we anticipate that the response will require a significant amount of EPA's resources and time to search for and collect the requested records from field facilities or other establishments that are separate from the office processing the request. Majority of records identified as potentially responsive to your request are located in our headquarters building. Due to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic safety restrictions, the EPA has instituted offsite telework protocols restricting access to the building, thus significantly limiting access to physical paper records.

Given this unusual circumstance, our response to this request requires additional time. We estimate completion by *August 1, 2022*. However, the EPA has not identified a specific date to return to the office. We will revisit our estimate once the health and safety guidelines are relaxed for the National Capital Region and/or possibly process the request earlier than estimated.

You have several available options that could shorten this time frame. You may limit the scope of your request, modify, withdraw the request, accept receipt of any available records and resubmit another request for the remaining records at a later date.

Feel free to contact me to discuss any of the above options or an alternative time frame for processing by email at Kindell.Michael@epa.gov (9:00AM to 5:00PM). Please refer to the above FOIA identifier number when contacting me about this request.

For further assistance or to discuss any aspect of your request, you may also seek assistance in resolution from EPA's FOIA Public Liaison at hq.foia@epa.gov or (202) 566-1667. Additionally, you have the right to seek dispute resolution services from the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS). You may contact OGIS in any of the following ways: by mail, Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, Room 2510, 8610 Adelphi Road, College Park, MD 20740-6001; email, ogis@nara.gov; telephone, (301) 837-1996 or (877) 684-6448; or fax, (301) 837-0348.

Sincerely, Wichael Kindell

Michael D. Kindell

Michael D. Kindell

Public Information and Records Integrity Branch Communications Services and Information Division